NASA Project Management Challenge 2009

PROJECT MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE 2009

Sixth Annual NASA Project Management Seminar

ABSTRACT AND BIOGRAPHY

Adding Value to Orion through Independent Review

The Orion Spacecraft Project is a key component of NASA's Constellation Program that will return humans to the moon and provide logistical support to the International Space Station. This Project must be well conceived, soundly planned, and properly executed. The Project's challenge is amplified because NASA has not built a new major space transportation system in over 30 years.

To help ensure that America's next steps into space will be successful, NASA has commissioned an independent, technically rigorous oversight effort by establishing six Constellation Standing Review Boards. The Orion Standing Review Board oversees the Orion Project. For over two years, this Board has been conducting comprehensive reviews of the Orion programmatics, systems engineering and integration, and spacecraft subsystems including assessments of the design requirements, technical approaches, progress against plans, and readiness to proceed into the preliminary phase.

Together, the Project and Board face a number of challenges:

- *Assessments must be Constructive.*
- *Assessments must be High Quality.*
- *Assessments must be Independent*.

Through careful design and competent personnel, the Orion Standing Review Board is helping ensure that NASA successfully meets America's next major exploration challenge.

Mark Geyer
Orion Project Manager
NASA Johnson Space Center

Mark Geyer serves as the Project Manager, Orion Project and is responsible for the day-to-day management, development, and integration of Orion system. The Orion system is how America will deliver crew to the Moon and also to ISS. Prior to his current assignment, Mr. Geyer was the Deputy Manager of the Constellation Program where, along with the Program Manager, is responsible for the day-to-day management, development, and integration of Program elements. The Constellation program is the implementation of the nations plan to return to the moon and eventually to Mars. Mark was the manager for the Operations Integration International Space Station; he was responsible for managing the real time operations of the ISS. He also served as chairman of the ISS Mission Management Team (IMMT) providing programmatic

direction for real time operations. Mr. Geyer has been with JSC since 1996 in several management positions; such as the manager of the Program Integration International Space Station; he was responsible for managing the system level engineering of the International Space station. These duties included; ensuring the technical integration of the International Partner elements (RSA, ESA, NASDA, Brazil, CSA) into the ISS, developing the ISS assembly sequence and vehicle integrated performance analysis, developing the external carriers hardware; and the manager of the Russian Segment International Space Station, he was responsible for managing the integration of the Russian elements and subsystems into the Space Station.

Mr. Geyer earned a MS in Astronautics and Aeronautics Engineering and a BS in Astronautics and Aeronautics Engineering from Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN.

Chet Sasaki
Member of the Orion Standing Review Board
NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Chet Sasaki is with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and has served as the Orion SRB review manager for the past 15 months. His two most recent positions prior to this were as project manager for the Kepler (2002-2006) and Genesis (1997-2002) projects. Additionally, he has held positions as assistant project manager/instrument manager in the Scatterometers Project Office, Integration Manager on the SDIO/Pathfinder Project, and Program manager for Defense Space Technology Programs. He has worked on various space projects at JPL including Voyager, Galileo, IRAS, Shuttle Planning and Support, and NSCAT. He has been at JPL for 30 years with a two-year break to conduct a business brokerage operation in the early 80's. Prior to joining JPL, Chet served as an officer in the USAF for 12 years, working in rocket propulsion research, launch vehicles, and Minuteman System Testing. He obtained his Bachelor's in mechanical engineering at the University of Illinois (1964) and his Master's at Arizona State University (1969). He has also taught part-time in the Mechanical Engineering Department at Cal Poly Pomona.